September 1, 2010

The Honorable Dean Maxwell, Mayor
City of Anacortes
904 Sixth Street
Anacortes, WA 98221-0547

Re: City of Anacortes Shoreline Master Program Comprehensive Amendment—Resolution 1796

Dear Mayor Maxwell:

I would like to take this opportunity to commend the city of Anacortes (City) for its efforts in developing the proposed Shoreline Master Program (SMP) Update. It is consistent not only with the needs of the City, but also with the policy and procedural requirements of the Shoreline Management Act and the Shoreline Master Program Guidelines.

As we have already discussed with your staff, the Washington State Department of Ecology (Ecology) approves the proposed amendment, subject to the City’s agreement to the required changes detailed in Attachment B. The findings and conclusions that support Ecology’s decision are also enclosed (Attachment A). In addition, Ecology has identified suggested changes that are detailed in Attachment C.

Because a change is required, the amendment will not become effective until Ecology receives written notice that the City agrees to the changes¹. The effective date of the SMP update will be the date on which Ecology receives written notice of your agreement.

If you do not agree to the changes listed in Attachment B, then pursuant to WAC 173-26-120(7)(b)(ii), you may propose to Ecology alternative amendments consistent with the scope of the original submittal, SMA policy and the applicable guidelines. At that point, Ecology will need to review and approve the alternative amendment(s) before they become effective.

As a reminder, shoreline procedural rules² require the City to publish a notice that Ecology has taken final action on this SMP update. Therefore, once Ecology acknowledges receipt of your written agreement, the City should publish a public notice to start a required appeal period.

¹ WAC 173-26-120(7)(b)(i)
² WAC 173-26-120(9)
Finally, the City must forward two hard copies and one digital copy of the final complete package of approved SMP amendments to Ecology.

To summarize, if the City agrees with the required changes, it must:

1. Notify Ecology in writing by sending the notice directly to the Director’s Office at the following address:
   WA State Department of Ecology
   Attention: Director’s Office
   PO Box 47600
   Olympia, WA 98504-6700
2. Wait to hear from Ecology that we have received your notice of agreement.
3. Publish a notice that Ecology has taken final action.
4. Forward two hard copies and one digital copy of the final amendment package to Ecology.

Thank you again for your efforts. If you have any questions, please contact our regional planner Bob Fritzen at bob.fritzen@ecy.wa.gov/ (360) 715-5207.

Sincerely,

Ted Sturdevant
Director

Enclosures

By certified mail [7003 1010 0005 0569 1413]

cc: Bob Fritzen, Ecology Bellingham Field Office
    Richard M. Grout, Manager Ecology Bellingham Field Office
    Ryan Larson, City of Anacortes
    Peter Skowlund, Ecology HQ
    Interested Parties